

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Norfolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of First Norfolk Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 3.6% (4,324) reside in the First Norfolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (822) of First Norfolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 78.7% of admissions from the First Norfolk Representative District were male and 21.2% were female.
- Over 67.1% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 76.8% of admissions were white non-Latino, 13.8% were black non-Latino, 5.8% were Latino, 0.8% were Asians, and 2.7% were other racial categories.
- 66.7% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 53.9% were married, and 18.7% reported not to be married now.
- 27.3% of admissions had less than high school education, 51.9% completed high school, and 23.2% had more than high school education.
- 17.5% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 48.3% of those admitted were homeless.
- 8.6% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

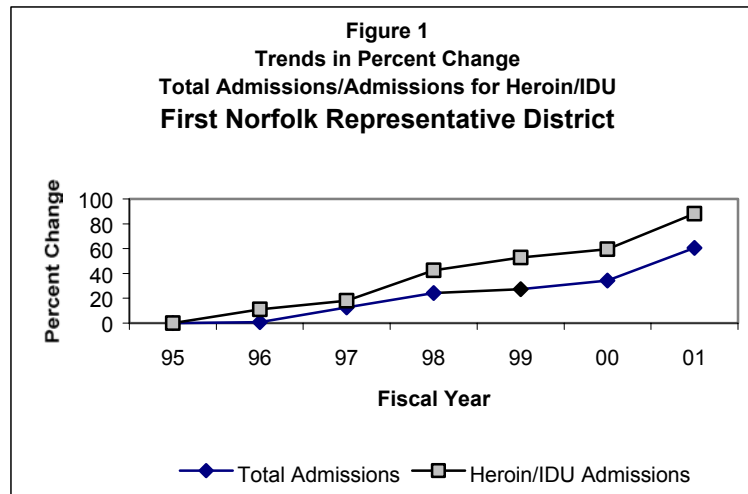
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the First Norfolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
First Norfolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	2,695	2,139	572	905	512	794	611
FY '96	2,717	2,184	684	905	611	890	671
FY '97	3,036	2,621	956	1,135	835	947	713
FY '98	3,348	2,777	1,017	1,092	827	1,171	830
FY '99	3,432	2,803	966	1,137	842	1,238	910
FY '00	3,616	2,896	935	1,055	718	1,289	951
FY '01	4,324	3,310	988	1,217	741	1,553	1,092

- Since FY 1995, residents of First Norfolk Representative District reported an increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use nearly doubled, while alcohol use increased by 54%, marijuana by 72%, cocaine by 34%, and crack use by 44%.

Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the First Norfolk Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV¹.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 60.4% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 88%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Norfolk Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	57.1 %	30.3%	3.3%	3.4%	2.4%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, alcohol as a primary drug was higher, and, heroin, marijuana, and crack was lower within your District.

¹ The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000